

The Nebagamon Lake Association Newsletter

Fall 2017



President's Message

Another great year is just about in the books for our organization. This year was our biggest yet for "Healthy Lakes" projects on Lake Nebagamon, including my own. I had the pleasure of creating three rock infiltration pits that will serve to reduce and filter runoff into the lake in strategic areas of my yard where water is known to flow during rain events. I would like to thank those that provided help and equipment to me in my projects. There were many projects going on this year around the lake. Some homeowners donated their own labor, while others contracted the work. In all cases, these mutually beneficial projects were either free or very inexpensive (less than \$100) to the homeowners.

As much as I enjoyed digging and filling holes, the highlight of the year for me was the volunteer response we received for the late September walleye stocking. We had a list of almost 30 volunteers wanting to help disperse the walleye to various parts of the lake. While logistically all were not able to make it at exactly the time the DNR arrived, we still had an extraordinary effort over two days that we hope will be beneficial to the growing walleye population.

Hope you have a great winter season.

-Erik Takkunen



In-progress photos of one of my rock infiltration pit projects



Reminder—Important Dates in 2018

June 16	Rummage sale
June 23	Annual meeting, 9:30 a.m., Auditorium
July 4	Boat Parade, 7 p.m.
August 11	Summer Social, 6 p.m. at Patti's Dockside



4th of July Boat Parade Sets a Record (again)

With improved weather, the boat parade drew another record turnout this year with 62 boats. We again saw boats of all types: pontoons, ski boats, and fishing boats. Check out the Nebagamon Lake Association on Facebook to see all of the pictures.

We look forward to a great turnout again next year. Bring your best decorations, costumes, and spirit and you may win the grand prize of Dilly Bars for everybody on board! As a reminder, don't forget each and every year to end the boat parade by stopping at the lead pontoon boat to pick up your free Dairy Queen gift certificate (thanks to Bonnie at the Lake Nebagamon DQ for providing!).





Healthy Lakes Initiative

The Healthy Lakes Program, initiated by the DNR, is dedicated towards reducing and eliminating harmful chemical runoff into our lake. Rain runoff from roads, driveways, roofs and lawns all contribute towards lake contamination. Solutions to prevent runoff include diversion ditches, rock pits to capture water, rain gardens, fish sticks and shoreline vegetation. Six lakeshore properties participated the first year, nine properties the second year and we expect another nine next year.

Not only do the projects help keep our lake cleaner, but they can also beautify your property. DNR grants provide 75% of your project cost, our association provides another 15%, and you provide 0-10% depending on labor participation. Installation is easy with Tom Maas and Jason Willett available to consult. Call today for a FREE EVALUATION to consider possibilities (Al Yoshimoto at 715-817-0439). And encourage your neighbors and friends to do the same!

Finally, we are working with the Village of Lake Nebagamon to design and build a trench and holding tank system to capture runoff at the boat ramp landing in 2018. We received a grant from the State for approximately \$20,000 which was intended to cover 75% of the costs of the project.

-Phil Takkunen



At Phil & Gretchen Takkunen's property, rainwater comes out of the downspouts, runs down the hill through drain tile, and feeds a rain garden with native plantings.



At Dan & Barb Takkunen's property, a shoreline restoration project featuring native plantings will further slow the flow of runoff into the lake.

2017 Lake Nebagamon Water Quality Data

We tested the water on Lake Nebagamon 12 different days during the 2017 summer season (July-Aug). And if you thought the water appeared to be clearer this year as compared to last year, you were correct. The average secchi disk reading for the lake was 7.6 feet. During the 2016 summer season the average was 5.75 feet. By comparison the average secchi disk reading for Lake Minnesueing was 5.86 in 2017 and 5.2 in 2016.

-Mark Laskowski

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2017 AIS Boat Launch Monitoring

Monitoring of Lake Nebagamon started with the May 7th Fishing Opener and continued through Labor Day on September 4th. We monitored only weekends until Memorial Day on May 29th. After Memorial Day, we began monitoring daily—53 hours per week.

We employed 3 monitors all of whom worked for us in previous years. They were Jeff Giansanti, Judy Dalbec and William Cain. Again we gave special emphasis to boats that had been in other waters in the past 5 days and particularly those that we knew had Zebra Mussel and/or Eurasian Watermilfoil problems.

We made sure boats had their drain plugs out and checked fisherman's live wells to make sure they did not transport minnows from lake to lake.

There were 53-11 hour shifts and 46- 5 hour shifts during the monitor period. We did have 6 shifts of 5 hours each that were not covered due to rain and electrical storms. There were 3 shifts of 5 hours each not covered due to other circumstances. All monitors were paid at a rate of \$8.50 per hour.

We monitored 1,940 boats (23 more than last year). There were 1,225 boats entering the lake and 715 boats leaving the lake. There were 119 boats that had been in another body of water within the previous 5 days (up from 87 last year). Of these boats, 37 had been in a lake or river identified as having a Zebra Mussel or Eurasian Milfoil problem by the Wisconsin or Minnesota DNR. This number was up from 26 such boats last year. We again had no violations. The number of people contacted by our monitors was 3,621. Last year our monitors contacted 3,483 people.

-Dave Sprowls

Membership Report

We finished our 2017 fiscal year with 230 member families.

For the 2018 fiscal year starting July 1, 2017, at this time we have 180 paid members, with many paying in advance. This is 27 less than we had in the previous year at this time. Reminders have been recently been sent to remaining members, as well as a reminder that would have come with this newsletter (either in an email message or along with your paper copy in the mail).

We hope and expect to exceed the record 230 membership count achieved last year. We do everything we can to provide reminders, and try to make it as convenient as possible whether including copies of the forms with the newsletter or providing an online payment portal at www.nebagamonlakeassociation.com. Additionally, we again sent a letter with information about our organization to all lake properties who are not members over the summer. After having success with this last year, we picked up another 15 new members this year. We now have 76% of lake shore owners as members, as well as numerous other members who have an interest in the lake.



NLA Board of Directors

Erik Takkunen, President	612-867-7951
Adam Riutta, Vice President	317-407-5395
Alan Yoshimoto, Secretary	715-374-2467
Jack Sellwood, Treasurer	715-374-3254
Mark Laskowski	715-374-3747
David Conley	715-375-2088
Jason Willett	651-303-1850
George Lehman	218-390-7341
Ed Noltner	715-374-3707
Tom Maas	715-374-2147
David Sprowls	239-676-4064
Phil Takkunen	949-412-8690

Walleye Stocking

The walleye population continues to increase in our lake. Although no 'fish sticks' habitat were placed last winter due to poor ice conditions, almost 15,000 walleye fingerlings were stocked in September. These walleyes, worth about \$30,000, were provided by the DNR in Spooner and we are grateful to them. The walleyes were distributed throughout the lake by volunteers in 16 boats the first day and 8 boats the second. This was just a great turnout and support from lake association members! Since the program started 5 years ago, we have stocked over 60,000 walleyes and set aside nearly 5% of our shoreline for fish sticks habitat. We continue to look for more shoreline habitat in the form of fish sticks and encourage everyone to consider this. Call Phil Takkunen for more information.

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2017 Wisconsin Conservation Congress Proposes Changes to Fishing Regulations on Lake Nebagamon

Over 5,000 people attended the 2017 Spring Fish and Wildlife Rules Hearings and Wisconsin Conservation Congress county meetings that were held in April. The meetings are held simultaneously in all 72 counties, and they allow citizens to comment and provide their input on proposed fish and wildlife rule changes. On the statewide ballot this year was question 28 – "Quality Bass Management." This proposal would apply an 18 inch minimum length limit and 1 fish daily bag limit to smallmouth bass and no minimum length limit for largemouth bass, with a combined daily bag limit of 5 bass. The goal was a high quality smallmouth bass fishery, that some have termed "Trophy bass lakes." Lake Nebagamon was one of five Douglas County lakes that was proposed to have these regulations. Ken Lundberg and Will Kiefer attended the meetings and spoke against the proposal citing our recent work in trying to rebuild the walleye population in the lake. With the assistance of Scott Toshner of the DNR, who has been a major asset to our lake, Lake Nebagamon was exempted from this proposal.



Thanks for All of Your Extra Contributions This Year!

We would like to extend a big thank you to the following members who generously made additional contributions in the 2017/18 fiscal year. These contributions were directed towards either aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention, walleye stocking, Healthy Lakes, or other general projects.

- Katrina & John Yoon
- Ryan Fraley & Shelley Balcer
- Robert & Karen Stroud
- Fred & Ginger Strom
- Camp Nebagamom
- Ed Anderson
- Roger & Elaine Engle
- Danny & Patti Slosburg
- Eileen Mershart
- Jim Giesen & Mark Klink
- Ron & Robin Anderson
- Kevin & Cindy Donley
- Willard & Bunny Kiefer
- Shawn & Pamela Skramstad
- Debra & Greg Neve
- Scott Barnard
- Mike & Julie Kemp
- Martha & Scott Weicht
- Alan & Mary Yoshimoto
- Audrey Missinne
- David & Deborah Amys
- Richard Larson
- Bernard & Sally Stein
- John & Marilyn McGill
- Hal & Carolyn Hudson
- Dan & Barb Takkunen
- Mark & Amy Callaway
- Jerry & Kay DeVinck
- Rolf & Eunice Grimsrud
- Michael & Nancy Murray
- Charles & Terri Finckler
- Scott & Rebecca Radtke
- Richard & Gwen Theien



A bear takes a break from a meal – Jane Dolter



Family rock sculptures on the beach – Lois Pollari



Cameron & Angel Olson & family on the 4th of July

July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL
NEBAGAMON LAKE ASSOCIATION
<http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com>



***Save time and postage! You now have the option of paying online with a credit card at <http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com/payonline.html>. When paying online you can also provide the below information.**

Name: _____

Spouse's name: _____

Phone number _____

Lake Nebagamon address (fire number & road only)_____

Mailing address (where you wish newsletters to be mailed)_____

☐ Please send the spring and fall newsletters by email. I want to help save printing and postage expense.

Email address_____

Dues are \$20 per year—a small amount that has a big impact!

Payment for fiscal year 2017, if needed (July 2016 - June 2017)

Payment for fiscal year 2018 (July 2017 - June 2018)

If you wish to pay dues in advance (more than one year), indicate amount here:

We are involved in many projects and would gladly accept additional contributions, if you wish to contribute additionally, indicate amount here:

- Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention
- Walleye Enhancement Initiative
- General Fund (Projects Determined by Membership)

Total paid

Please make your check payable to NLA and send it along with this information sheet to:

NLA
PO Box 216
Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849

